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Agenda item 158

Declaration by the United Nations of 8 and 9 May as days of remembrance and reconciliation

Letter dated 9 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Concerning the commemoration at the United Nations of the end of the Second World War, the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela wishes to make the following comments.

Throughout our history, the people of Venezuela has shown its peaceful and pacifist nature and inclination in its international conduct. We have crossed our borders only in order to assist fraternal peoples in their fight against colonial oppression, from 1819 to 1826 under the leadership of the Liberator Simón Bolívar. Articles 1, 3, 13 and 152 of the Constitution reflect that humanist spirit:

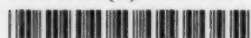
Article 1: "The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is irrevocably free and independent and bases its moral heritage and its values of freedom, equality, justice and *international peace* on the doctrine of Simón Bolívar, the Liberator."

Article 3: "The State has as its essential goals the defence and development of the person and respect for his dignity, the democratic exercise of the people's will, *the construction of a just and peace-loving society*, the promotion of the prosperity and well-being of the people and the guarantee of the fulfilment of the principles, rights and duties consecrated in this Constitution.

Education and work are the fundamental processes for the achievement of those goals."

Article 13: "[...] *The Venezuelan geographical space is a zone of peace ...*"

Article 152: "The international relations of the Republic respond to the purposes of the State as they relate to the exercise of the sovereignty and the interests of the people; they are ruled by the principles of independence, equality among States, free determination and non-intervention in their



internal issues, *peaceful solution of international conflicts*, cooperation, respect for human rights and solidarity among peoples in the fight for their emancipation and the well-being of humanity. The Republic will maintain the most firm and resolute defence of these principles and democratic practice in all international bodies and institutions."

In accordance with these principles, as a member of the United Nations and one of its founding States, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on the occasion of the commemoration of the end of the Second World War, reaffirms its commitment to the peace which we all need and desire, but which is still threatened by the forces of destruction at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

The commemoration of that event prompts us to recall firstly that although the peoples of Western Europe and the United States of America, as victims, paid a heavy tribute in that worldwide conflagration in its aspect as an inter-imperialist struggle, we must not overlook the sufferings of other population groups as a result of that same armed conflict, conceived as a war of extermination against peoples. In that context, in addition to the high levels of death and suffering inflicted upon six million Jews in the concentration camps, a holocaust which merits full remembrance, we cannot overlook the undeniable magnitude of the sacrifice of the peoples which at that time made up the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, amounting to 27 million deaths, the price they paid for the defeat suffered in the Great Patriotic War by the powerful German military machine. It would also be unjust if we failed to commemorate the deaths and atrocities suffered by 20 million Chinese patriots and one million Koreans in their heroic resistance to the aggression by Japanese imperialism which began in 1937. That resistance impeded Japan's expansion in the Pacific and protected the rearguard of the Soviet Union, thereby contributing decisively to the triumph over fascism on the Eastern Front and the end of the war. Similarly, our commemoration should also include the undying memory of the holocaust of the Japanese people at Hiroshima and Nagasaki who were annihilated despite the certainty, already existing at the end of the European conflict, that the war was lost for Japan.

Despite the conclusion in May 1945 of the war in Europe, and the end of the conflict in Asia in September 1945, the imperialist States never ended their war against peoples through the sharing out of markets on the global scale, an aggression which followed its inexorable course and claimed lives in countries such as Algeria, Greece, India, Indonesia and Viet Nam, where the imperialist States sought to re-establish their pre-war colonial dominion, violently repressing the nascent impetus towards decolonization which had flowered as soon as the worldwide conflict had ended. This process has gone on continually up to the present.

We should also focus on another event which constituted a watershed in world history: the perverse use of atomic weapons against civilians in 1945, an act which brought about a qualitative change in the nature of war and shocked people throughout the world, bringing a new historical agent and global actor onto the scene: Humanity, which from that time onwards took responsibility for the rights and interests of the human species and the protection of the environment, both at risk of annihilation through nuclear apocalypse.

The ending of the war in 1945 also led to the birth of the United Nations, a world body inspired by principles and purposes which we embraced at the time of its founding and still defend consistently against threats of all kinds. However, with

the passage of time it has become clear that there is an urgent need to transform the Organization to bring it into line with the new realities of the twenty-first century. While many propose reforming the Charter and describe as anachronistic provisions such as Articles 53, 77 and 107, which refer to "enemy States", they say nothing of those others, Articles 23, 27, 86, 106 and 108-110, which refer to the allied Powers of the Second World War. Those Articles, however, are also obsolete, since they continue to ensure that the States which were victorious in the war enjoy a privileged position in the Organization.

Lastly, from the viewpoint of the States of South America, which were until the mid-twentieth century subjected to the British colonial yoke, shared successively with France and Germany, 1945 saw the inrush into the subcontinent of monopolistic capital from the United States and the imposition of that country's hegemony, despite some resistance, taking advantage of the ruin of the British Empire and the general breakdown in relations between Latin America and a European continent which had been occupied by the Nazis and devastated by war. As reflected in the minutes of the Council of Ministers for 8 and 15 February 1945, the Government of General Isaías Medina Angarita, President from 1941 to 1945 of what were then the United States of Venezuela, resisted pressure from the United States of America, which sought to persuade Venezuela to declare war on the Axis powers, threatening that if it refused to do so it would be prevented from taking part in the founding conference of the United Nations at San Francisco. The Venezuelan Government considered this situation in Cabinet, and its final response to that pressure was merely to recognize that a state of war existed "for the moment" between Venezuela and Germany and Japan.

We should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) **Fermin Toro Jiménez**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

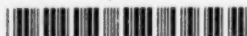
**General Assembly
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**General Assembly
Fifty-ninth session**
Agenda items 36 and 148**Security Council
Sixtieth session****The situation in the Middle East****Measures to eliminate international
terrorism****Identical letters dated 12 May 2005 from the Permanent
Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

I wish to draw your attention to the latest violations of the Blue Line from Lebanese territory. Last night, 11 May 2005, at 11.11 p.m. local time, a 107 mm mortar shell was fired by members of a terrorist militia in southern Lebanon at the northern Israeli town of Shlomi. The shell, directed specifically against a civilian target, severely damaged a commercial building, and it is only by chance that nobody was injured or killed. This attack was launched in the midst of the celebrations of Israel's Independence Day, and is only the most recent in a series of wilful unprovoked attacks carried out against Israel by terrorist organizations, which operate freely from Lebanese territory. Even as I write this, in fact, it has just been reported that there has been another large explosion near the Blue Line, whose nature has yet to be determined.

As you are well aware, in May 2000, Israel withdrew completely from Lebanon, in full and confirmed compliance with Security Council resolution 425 (1978). Since that time, despite the presence of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), these acts of aggression against Israelis have continued, enabled by the complicity of the Government of Lebanon, and with the support of the Syrian and Iranian regimes that have long sponsored, trained and financed these terrorist groups. Such actions, which continue unabated despite recent developments, represent a direct negation of obligations under international law and the provisions of Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 1310 (2000), 1337 (2001), 1373 (2001), 1553 (2004), 1566 (2004) and 1559 (2004). The failure of the Government of Lebanon, in grave violation of these obligations, to restore peace and security, to ensure the return of its effective authority and prevent cross-border attacks from its territory, and to fully disarm and dismantle armed militias, is the direct cause of instability in the area.



Israel once again calls on the international community to expect nothing less than full compliance by all States with their counter-terrorism obligations. Those regimes in the region that sponsor or tolerate terrorist activity are not absolved of their legal obligations to fight terrorism, as part of the global campaign against international terrorism. Were it not for the terrorism and its support infrastructure that operates with impunity from, and with the blessing and direct support of, these regimes, in violation of the most basic legal norms and explicit Security Council resolutions, Israeli measures of defence would be unnecessary.

I should be grateful if you could arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36, "The situation in the Middle East", and 148, "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", and of the Security Council. An identical letter has been sent to the President of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dan **Gillerman**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



**General Assembly
Security Council**

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13 May 2005
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**General Assembly
Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 36
The situation in the Middle East**

**Security Council
Sixtieth year**

**Letter dated 13 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General**

In my capacity as the representative of the country which hosted "Quartet" Ministerial meeting of the Middle East Peace Process international intermediaries I have the honour to transmit to you its final statement.

I would be grateful if the text of this letter and its annex could be distributed as a document of the Security Council at the General Assembly under agenda item 36 of the fifty-ninth session.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Andrey Denisov



Annex to the letter dated 13 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Quartet Statement, Moscow, Russia, 9 May 2005

The Quartet met today in Moscow. The Quartet emphasizes that this is a hopeful and promising moment for both Palestinians and Israelis, and that they deserve the full support of the international community in helping them with the hard work and difficult decisions required in order to make positive use of this opportunity. The Quartet welcomed the commitments of the parties at the Sharm el-Sheikh summit of 8 February 2005 and urged them to renew their efforts to fulfil the commitments they agreed to at that time, in order to maintain momentum at this fragile moment of opportunity. The Quartet, underscoring the urgency of the matter, affirms its commitment to fully support the efforts of both parties to ensure successful Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank.

The Quartet strongly reiterated its commitment to the two-state solution, and to Israeli withdrawal as a way to re-energize the Roadmap. The Quartet stresses the importance of full and complete Israeli withdrawal from Gaza in a manner consistent with the Roadmap as an important step paving the way towards realizing the vision of two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security. The Quartet affirms that a new Palestinian state must be truly viable, with contiguity in the West Bank; reminds all concerned that a state of scattered territories will not work; and emphasizes that no party should take unilateral actions that prejudice final status issues. The Quartet also affirms that the two-state vision and the Roadmap are the best means of achieving a settlement negotiated between the two parties, leading to a permanent peace and an end to the occupation that began in 1967. With respect to this, the Quartet observes that the Roadmap has been endorsed by Israel and the Palestinian Authority and remains the objective of the international community; and urges both parties to take steps to fulfil all their obligations under the Roadmap.

The Quartet expresses its full support for James Wolfensohn, its Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement. His mandate is to focus on the non-security aspects of withdrawal, particularly disposition of assets; passages, access and trade; and revival of the Palestinian economy during and after Israeli withdrawal. This will require close coordination with both Israel and the Palestinians to identify and implement those actions and policies that will ensure a smooth and successful implementation of the Israeli initiative. On the Palestinian side, this includes above all a strong commitment to security reform and performance; and the building of transparent, accountable government institutions and an investor-friendly climate, with a view to restoring growth. On the Israeli side, this involves relieving the economic hardships faced by the Palestinian people and facilitating rehabilitation and reconstruction by easing the system of restrictions on the movement of Palestinian people and goods and taking further steps to respect the dignity of the Palestinian people and improve their quality of life — without endangering Israeli security — and taking into consideration the World Bank report of December 2004. At the London meeting on 1 March 2005 the international community underscored its readiness to play a vital role by providing financial support to the Palestinians at this critical moment. Creating the environment conducive for a long-term,

sustainable and viable economic development of all the Palestinian territories would constitute a suitable basis for additional assistance efforts by the international community.

The Quartet emphasizes Mr. Wolfensohn's mandate to promote direct dialogue and cooperation between Palestinians and Israelis on these economic issues, to ensure a smooth transition in Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank. In this context, the Quartet stresses the urgent need for Israelis and Palestinians to coordinate directly and fully on withdrawal preparations.

The Quartet recognizes that economic development and progress on security go hand in hand as security reforms and the re-establishment of the rule of law are necessary to create an enabling environment for economic growth and political progress. The Quartet also recognizes the need for continued efforts by the international community to assist the Palestinian Authority in accomplishing these tasks, including rebuilding the capabilities of the Palestinian security services. Ongoing assistance by the international community, in particular members of the Quartet and countries of the region, constitutes a significant contribution to these efforts. The Quartet calls upon Israel and the Palestinian Authority to facilitate these efforts.

In that regard, the Quartet expresses its full support for General William Ward, United States Security Coordinator, to assist the Palestinians in reforming and restructuring their security forces, and to coordinate international assistance towards those efforts. The Quartet welcomes the recent concrete steps that President M. Abbas has taken towards reform of the Palestinian security services, and stresses the need to continue implementation of these reforms in order to permanently reinstate law and order in Gaza and the West Bank.

The Quartet commends the Palestinian people's and leadership's commitment to democracy and attaches great importance to a successful continuation of the democratic process. The latest round of municipal elections has just been conducted. The Quartet commends the Government of Israel for facilitating the operations. The holding of free, fair and transparent multi-party legislative elections in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, under the scrutiny of international observers, will be another vital step forward on the path towards building a reformed and accountable Palestinian Authority. As additional voter registration for these elections has just begun, the Quartet calls on both the Palestinian Authority and Israel to urgently take all necessary steps, including freedom of movement for candidates and voters, to achieve this goal and renews its offers of technical support and providing election observation services.

The Quartet deems it necessary to ensure continued efforts aimed at full implementation of the Roadmap following Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank.

The Quartet reiterates its commitment to the principles outlined in its previous statements, including those of 1 March 2005 and 4 May 2004; and reaffirms its commitment to a just, comprehensive, and lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict based upon United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, and will remain engaged with all parties to help ensure that progress towards this goal is achieved.

**General Assembly
Security Council**Distr.: General
17 May 2005

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**General Assembly
Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 29
Question of Cyprus****Security Council
Sixtieth year****Letter dated 17 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 24 March 2005 addressed to you (A/59/755-S/2005/205), I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 30 March 2005, on 4, 6, 13, 14, 15, 18, 20, 25, 27 and 28 April and on 3, 4, 5 and 6 May 2005, as follows.

On 30 March 2005, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 4 April 2005, one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Krini, where it remained.

On 6 April 2005, one C-130, two RF-4 and two F-16 Turkish military aircraft carried out a total of three violations of international air traffic regulations and two violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The C-130 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara;

(b) The two RF-4 and two F-16 Turkish military aircraft coming in one formation entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.



On 13 April 2005, two C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, carrying out three violations of international air traffic regulations and three violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The first C-160 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou;

(b) The second C-160 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 14 April 2005, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Tymbou, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 15 April 2005, one Black Hawk Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 18 April 2005, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 20 April 2005, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 25 April 2005, one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type took off from the illegal airport of Tymbou, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 27 April 2005, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 28 April 2005, four F-4 Turkish military aircraft coming in one formation and one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type entered the FIR of Nicosia, carrying out two violations of international air traffic regulations and one violation of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The four F-4 Turkish military aircraft coming in one formation entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara;

(b) The Turkish military aircraft of unknown type coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before landing at the illegal airport of Krini.

On 3 May 2005, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 4 May 2005, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 5 May 2005, two Turkish military aircraft of unknown type entered the FIR of Nicosia, carrying out two violations of international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The first Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Morfou, before landing at the same airport;

(b) The second Turkish military aircraft of unknown type took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before landing at the occupied area of Morfou, from where it departed flying towards the occupied area of Ammochostos, where it landed, and later returned to the illegal airport of Krini.

On 6 May 2005, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft and one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type entered the FIR of Nicosia and carried out three violations of international air traffic regulations and three violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The CN-235 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara;

(b) The Turkish military aircraft of unknown type took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied areas of Morfou and Kormakitis, before landing at the same airport.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest the above-cited violations and call for their immediate cessation. As repeatedly indicated in our previous communications, such acts blatantly contravene international law and air traffic regulations and seriously endanger international civil aviation. Moreover, these violations increase insecurity, maintain a climate of tension in a particularly sensitive region and undermine the efforts made to achieve progress in resolving the long-standing Cyprus issue.

Were Turkey to refrain from further violations and to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, it would contribute significantly to improving the climate and to creating the conditions required for reconciliation and reunification of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 29, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Andreas D. Mavroyiannis



**General Assembly
Security Council**

Distr.: General
19 May 2005

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-ninth session
Agenda items 36 and 148

Security Council
Sixtieth year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

**Identical letters dated 19 May 2005 from the Permanent
Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General and the President of the
Security Council**

I wish to draw your attention to the latest series of terrorist attacks perpetrated against Israel.

Since yesterday, 18 May 2005, Palestinian terrorists have fired over 40 mortar shells at Israeli communities in the Gaza Strip. The Palestinian Authority was notified of these attacks, but did not successfully prevent them or arrest the terrorists involved.

Terrorist elements also launched Qassam rockets against an Israeli community in the western Negev, and Hamas terrorists opened fire at an Israeli Defense Force (IDF) post on the Philadelphi route. Meanwhile, Israeli Security Forces uncovered a 40-kilogram explosive planted by terrorists in the same area.

In addition to this, during the night, a Hamas terrorist approached the Israeli-Egyptian border with the intention of laying and detonating an explosive device in order to target IDF forces. According to information from Palestinian officials given to IDF, the terrorist was apparently killed by a malfunction in the explosive device he was carrying.

As you are well aware, there have been a number of positive developments in the region of late, and Israel is doing its utmost to help create an atmosphere conducive to advancing the peace process. Attacks like these, however, jeopardize the future prospects for peace.

Despite this ongoing terrorist activity, Israel continues to exercise restraint and hopes that the new Palestinian leadership, as well as all States in the region, will finally meet their obligations and adopt a policy of zero tolerance for terrorism. Israel is engaging in a serious effort to renew the peace process, and has proved



ready to live up to its own obligations, but it expects the Palestinian leadership to be more active in fully eradicating terrorist activity.

Israel calls upon the international community to reaffirm its absolute rejection of terrorist tactics, and to accept nothing less than the complete dismantling of terrorist organizations, as well as unyielding efforts to prevent terrorism and bring its perpetrators and supporters to justice, in accordance with international law and Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 1373 (2001), as well as the road map. To delay such actions represents a direct and immediate threat to the fragile hopes of peace that have been rekindled in the region.

I submit the present letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism launched in September 2000, which document the crimes for which the terrorists and their supporters must be held fully accountable.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 148, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dan Gillerman
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

**General Assembly**

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17 May 2005

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Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 109
Programme planning

Proposed biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007**Programme 27**
Safety and security**Note by the Secretary-General***

1. In its resolution 59/275 of 23 December 2004, the General Assembly adopted the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007.¹ It is recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003, requested the Committee for Programme and Coordination, in performing its programmatic role in the planning and budgeting process, to review the programmatic aspects of new and/or revised mandates subsequent to the adoption of the biennial programme plan, as well as any differences that arose between the biennial programme plan and the programmatic aspects of the proposed programme budget.

2. The only new mandate affecting the programme narratives of the approved biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007 relates to safety and security. The General Assembly, in section XI of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004, decided to establish the Department of Safety and Security to implement activities related to the question of safety and security that had been reflected in the biennial programme plan for the period 2006-2007 under programme 24, Management and support services, and programme 26, Jointly financed activities.

3. A consolidated and revised programme plan for the new programme 27, Safety and security, has been prepared for review by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the General Assembly (see annex). The proposed new programme 27 would replace component (a), Security and safety services of subprogramme 4, Support services, for Headquarters and the United Nations Offices at Geneva,

* The present note is issued in line with the provisions of resolution 58/269 regarding the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the planning and budgetary process.

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/59/6/Rev.1).*



Vienna and Nairobi, of programme 24; and section D, Inter-organizational security measures, of programme 26. The programme narrative (objectives of the Organization, expected accomplishments of the Secretariat and indicators of achievement) for safety and security in the biennial programme plan has been modified to take into account the consolidation of all of the safety and security activities under the responsibility of the Department of Safety and Security. The approved new programme will be issued as document A/59/6/Rev.1/Add.1.

4. The programme narrative of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 for safety and security activities (A/60/6 (Sect. 33)) is identical to that of the consolidated programme 27 attached hereto. It is understood that any subsequent modifications to the programme narrative of programme 27 will be taken into account by the General Assembly at its sixtieth session when it reviews the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 under section 33, Safety and security.

Annex**Biennial programme plan and priorities for the period
2006-2007****Programme 27
Safety and security*****Contents**

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* Approved text from A/59/6/Rev.1 used where applicable.

Overall orientation

- 27.1 For the first half-century of its existence, the United Nations felt protected by its flag and the perception that it was a neutral, benevolent actor in world events. Beginning in the early 1990s, there was a rise in the number of deaths and injuries of staff members as a result of malicious acts. The majority of those incidents occurred because the staff member was in the wrong place at the wrong time. When United Nations personnel were directly targeted, it was generally viewed as an isolated event.
- 27.2 In recent years the security environment for the United Nations has changed and become more threatening. In addition, the mandates of the United Nations have evolved, resulting in a larger number of United Nations staff members, notably from the humanitarian agencies, being deployed on potentially hazardous missions. At the same time, peacekeeping missions have been established in areas of war or in situations of high risk. Increasingly, humanitarian staff are being deployed alongside military units in integrated multidisciplinary missions.
- 27.3 The primary responsibility, under the Charter of the United Nations, for the security and protection of personnel of the United Nations system lies with the Member States. However, there are situations under which Governments do not provide security coverage, particularly during emergency situations, such as abrupt changes in government, civil disorder and the absence of de facto authorities. In order to enhance the safety and security of personnel of the organizations of the United Nations system in such situations and to prepare for any eventuality, the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator was created in 1988 to enable the United Nations to effectively and efficiently carry out its activities in a safe and secure working environment. Over the years, the United Nations Security Coordinator coordinated and monitored the planning and implementation of inter-agency security and safety programmes, including all training.
- 27.4 Following the report of the Independent Panel on the Safety and Security of United Nations Personnel in Iraq on its investigation of the Baghdad attack in August 2003, a concerted effort has been made across the United Nations system to improve and strengthen security arrangements. The General Assembly, in its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004, decided to establish the Department of Safety and Security, emphasizing the need for an enhanced culture of security awareness on the part of all staff and compliance with safety and security rules and procedures throughout the United Nations system, as well as clear lines of authority and accountability.
- 27.5 The overall goals of this programme are:
 - (a) To support and facilitate the effective conduct of United Nations activities by ensuring a coherent, effective and timely response to all security-related threats and other emergencies;
 - (b) To ensure effective risk mitigation through the establishment of a coordinated security threat and risk assessment mechanism within the framework of a common system-wide methodology;
 - (c) To develop high-quality best-practice security policies, standards and operational procedures across the United Nations system, including the appropriate degree of standardization;
 - (d) To support implementation and monitor compliance with those security policies, standards and operational procedures;
 - (e) To ensure the most cost-effective provision and employment of security personnel by taking advantage of economies of scale and through centrally directed recruitment, selection, training, deployment and career development.

- 27.6 The work of the Department will be implemented under three subprogrammes: security and safety coordination, regional field operation coordination and field support. For the period 2006-2007, the Department will focus on enhancing coordination of the United Nations security management system; improving the implementation of policies and procedures relating to the security and safety of United Nations personnel and their eligible dependants; and consolidating, harmonizing and promulgating common policies, standards and operational procedures. The Department will also coordinate the activities of the United Nations system security and safety management network. A key element in all these measures will be the enhancement of the professional standards of safety and security personnel through the provision of training services in basic security functions, as well as in various specialized areas of safety and security. Specific measures will be undertaken to develop supplemental capacity in the Department, beyond the available standing capacity, to facilitate rapid response to security incidents and emergencies and to emergency situations that could affect the viability of United Nations operations.

Subprogramme 1 Security and safety coordination

Objective of the Organization: To protect staff, delegates, visiting dignitaries and other visitors on the United Nations premises and to prevent damage to United Nations property.^a

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved security and safety conditions at the United Nations headquarters locations and regional commissions	(a) (i) Improved compliance with Headquarters minimum operating security standards (ii) Maintenance of the time required for evacuation of United Nations complexes within established security standards ^a (iii) Reduced response time with respect to emergency security incidents (commencing 2005) ^a (iv) Absence of unauthorized entries to the United Nations premises ^a (v) Reduced number of safety-related claims submitted (commencing in 2005)
(b) Enhanced coordination of security arrangements and strengthened level of preparedness at United Nations headquarters locations and regional commissions	(b) (i) Increased percentage of common security procedures that have been standardized and a more coordinated approach to personal protection (commencing in 2005) (ii) Crisis operation plans and emergency contact lists are completed and updated (commencing in 2005)

^a Text approved in A/59/6/Rev.1, programme 24.

Strategy

- 27.7 This subprogramme is the responsibility of the Division of Safety and Security Services. The strategy for ensuring a secure and safe environment will include increasing the level of preparedness for managing crisis situations. The standards of professionalism of the security and safety personnel will be further enhanced through the provision of specialized training to the officers on a continuous basis, which will also maximize the use of officers for multiple specialized security functions. The skills of officers will be increased to keep them abreast of security and safety technology and modernized/upgraded communication equipment to ensure more efficient evacuation response and crisis management capabilities, reduced emergency response time, improved surveillance detection and more effective safety inspections, personal protection and other critical security functions. Furthermore, security awareness training for delegations and staff at large will be enhanced. The inspection of all physical structures related to security and safety will continue to be given high priority.

Subprogramme 2 Regional field operation coordination

Objective of the Organization: To protect staff members of the United Nations system, associated personnel and eligible dependants at all duty stations.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved security and safety of the working environment	(a) (i) Completion and updating of security threat and risk analyses for all duty stations (ii) Establishment by all duty stations of minimum operating security standards
(b) Security incidents are responded to in a timely manner	(b) (i) Completion and updating of all country-level security contingency plans, as well as those of the Department (ii) Increased capability to deploy or redeploy field security officers at 24 hours' notice

Strategy

- 27.8 This subprogramme is the responsibility of the Division of Regional Operations. The strategy for implementing the subprogramme will focus on creating conditions to minimize security-related incidents by: (a) coordinating safety and security issues between the organizations of the United Nations system; (b) monitoring the implementation of established security and safety policies; (c) developing security requirements for new missions as well as for special, regular and emergency operations; (d) monitoring, through compliance, assessment, survey and inspection missions, the implementation of the minimum operating security standards at field duty stations; (e) updating guidelines and directives; and (f) coordinating with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Political Affairs and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on the planning, implementation and review of safety and security programmes for peacekeeping, humanitarian and other special missions in the field. Those efforts will enforce the accountability and responsibility of designated officials, field security officers and

other actors within the framework of the new mechanism of accountability and responsibility in the area of field security for the implementation of the minimum operating security standards at all duty stations of the United Nations system. Priority attention will also be given to developing contingency plans for quick response to security incidents and emergencies that are beyond the capacity of in-country security arrangements.

Subprogramme 3

Field support

Objective of the Organization: To reduce and/or prevent critical incident stress and to increase the knowledge and skills of staff of the United Nations system with respect to safety and security issues.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened capacity of staff of the United Nations system to manage critical incident stress	(a) (i) Increased percentage of staff and their families in the field who have received stress management training ^a (ii) Increased level of coverage for United Nations staff requiring emotional first aid and psychological damage control following reported critical incidents
(b) Enhanced abilities in security and safety matters of all actors in the United Nations security management system, including designated officials, security management team members, security officers and staff members, through the security training	(b) (i) Increased number of security training standards that are regulated and harmonized across the security management system (ii) Increased percentage of United Nations staff at the main locations and in the field who have received security training relevant to their duties and requirements

^a Text approved in A/59/6/Rev.1, programme 26.

Strategy

- 27.9 This subprogramme is the responsibility of the Field Support Service. The implementation strategy will include the translation of security training standards into a coherent training programme for all actors in the United Nations security management system. Regional workshops and seminars will be conducted on security and safety issues, including on stress management. Related training materials will be developed and updated, taking into account gender-specific material. Counselling services will also be provided to staff as needed.

Legislative mandates*General Assembly resolutions and decisions*

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|--------------------|---|
| 54/192 | Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel |
| 56/255, sect. VIII | Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003: safety and security of United Nations personnel |
| 56/286 | Strengthening the security and safety of United Nations premises |
| 57/567 | Inter-organizational security measures: framework for accountability for the United Nations field security management system |
| 59/211 | Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel |
| 59/276, sect. XI | Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005: strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations |

Security Council resolutions

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|-------------|---|
| 1502 (2003) | Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations and associated personnel |
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Agenda item 105
Human rights questions

Letter dated 6 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement made by the representative of Ukraine at a meeting of the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe held on 5 May 2005 (see annex).

The statement concerns the administrative punishment of the Ukrainian citizens who participated in a peaceful humanitarian action on the theme "Chornobyl's Road", in Minsk, Belarus, on 26 April 2005.

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under item 105 of the agenda of its fifty-ninth session.

(Signed) Valeriy **Kuchinsky**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



**Annex to the letter dated 6 May 2005 from the Permanent
Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General**

**Statement
at the meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
May 5, 2005**

As for delivery by *Charge d'Affaires a.i.* Y. Polurez

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

With deep concern we heard the news about detention, on 26 April this year, and administrative punishment of five Ukrainian citizens, who participated in a peaceful, humanitarian action "Chornobyl's Road" the same day in Minsk in Belarus. The detention was carried out with the use of brutal force.

We condemn violations of the rights of the Ukrainian citizens, committed by the law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Belarus, as well as during the court hearings of respective cases.

Lack of opportunity for the detained to meet with the Ukrainian Consul at the initial stage of the case infringed their right to legal assistance. Moreover, the court has neglected this circumstance and restricted lawyer's opportunities to defend the citizens of Ukraine during the hearings in the court.

Actions of the Belorussian side contradict provisions of Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, as well as inalienable right of every citizen to a meeting with the consular official of his/her state. Unfortunately, Belorussian authorities refused to release Ukrainian citizens despite repeated requests of the Ukrainian side and the state of health of the detainees, is considered in Ukraine as an unfriendly gesture towards Ukraine.

We are also distressed that different punishment measures were administered to the Ukrainian detainees compared to Russian citizens, who were detained together with them and then released. This circumstance is considered as partiality of the Belorussian judicial bodies and discrimination against the Ukrainian citizens.

Mr. Chairman,

We note with regret that this year's commemoration of the Chornobyl tragedy common to our nations was marred in Belarus by the actions that demonstrated again the existence of problems in the field of human rights in this country.

We call upon Belorussian authorities to take necessary and timely steps in order to resolve the above-said situation.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.